

HARBERD et al
Appl. No. 09/485,529
December 8, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding ~~a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence of a *Rht* polypeptide obtained from *Triticum aestivum*, said polypeptide sequence comprising the amino acid sequence of~~ DELLAALGYKVRASDMA (SEQ ID NO:104),

and which on expression in a *Triticum aestivum* plant provides inhibition of growth of the plant, which inhibition is antagonised by gibberellin.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1, ~~wherein said isolated polynucleotide comprises which includes the nucleotide sequence of nucleic acid obtained from *Triticum aestivum* encoding the *Rht* polypeptide, the nucleotide sequence including~~
GACGAGCTGCTGGCGGCGCTCGGGTACAAGGTGCGCGCCTCCGACATGGCG
(SEQ ID NO:105).

4. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 8b (SEQ ID NO:7).

HARBERD et al
Appl. No. 09/485,529
December 8, 2003

5. (Currently Amended) The An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 4,
wherein said isolated polynucleotide comprises the ~~which has the coding~~ nucleotide
sequence shown in Figure 8a (SEQ ID NO:14).

6-9 (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide
which on expression in a plant provides inhibition of growth of the plant, which
inhibition is antagonised by gibberellin,

~~wherein said polynucleotide specifically hybridizes to the sequence of Figure 8A
(SEQ ID NO: 14) at 65°C in 0.25M Na₂HPO₄, pH 7.2, 6.5% SDS, 10% dextran sulphate
and a final wash at 60°C in 0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS, and;~~

wherein said polypeptide includes the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 9b
(SEQ ID NO: 8) ~~for the maize D8 polypeptide.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The An isolated polynucleotide according to claim
10, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the ~~which has the coding~~ nucleotide sequence
shown in Figure 9a (SEQ ID NO:15).

12. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide
which on expression in a plant provides inhibition of growth of the plant, which
inhibition is antagonised by gibberellin,

HARBERD et al
Appl. No. 09/485,529
December 8, 2003

~~wherein said polynucleotide specifically hybridizes to the sequence of Figure 8A (SEQ ID NO: 14) at 65°C in 0.25M Na₂HPO₄, pH 7.2, 6.5% SDS, 10% dextran sulphate and a final wash at 60°C in 0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS, and;~~

wherein said polypeptide ~~includes~~ comprises the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 6b (SEQ ID NO: 5).

13. (Currently Amended) The An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 12, wherein said isolated polynucleotide comprises the ~~which has the coding~~ nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 6a (SEQ ID NO: 12).

14-19 (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide which on expression in a plant confers a phenotype on the plant which is gibberellin-unresponsive dwarfism or which on expression in a *rht* null mutant phenotype plant complements the *rht* null mutant phenotype, such *rht* null mutant phenotype being resistant to the dwarfing effect of paclobutrazol,

~~which polynucleotide has~~ wherein said isolated polynucleotide comprises the ~~coding~~ nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 9a (SEQ ID NO: 15) wherein the nucleotides encoding the amino acid sequence DELLAALGYKVRSSDMA (SEQ ID NO: 106) are deleted.

HARBERD et al
Appl. No. 09/485,529
December 8, 2003

21-24 (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide which on expression in a plant confers a phenotype on the plant which is gibberellin-unresponsive dwarfism or which on expression in a *rht* null mutant phenotype plant complements the *rht* null mutant phenotype, such *rht* null mutant phenotype being resistant to the dwarfing effect of paclobutrazol,

~~which polynucleotide has wherein said isolated polynucleotide comprises the~~
eoding nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 6a (SEQ ID NO: 12), wherein the nucleotides encoding the amino acid sequence DELLAALGYKVRSSDMA (SEQ ID NO: 106) are deleted.

26. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 8b (SEQ ID NO:7), with the amino acid sequence DELLAALGYKVRASDMA (SEQ ID NO:104) deleted.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~An~~ isolated polynucleotide according to claim 26, wherein said isolated polynucleotide comprises the ~~which has the eoding~~ nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 8a (SEQ ID NO:14), wherein the nucleotides encoding the amino acid sequence DELLAALGYKVRASDMA (SEQ ID NO:104) are deleted.

HARBERD et al
Appl. No. 09/485,529
December 8, 2003

28. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1 operably linked to a regulatory sequence for expression.

29. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 28 wherein the regulatory sequence ~~includes~~ comprises an inducible promoter.

30 and 31 (Cancelled).

32. (Currently Amended) A nucleic acid vector comprising ~~for transformation of a plant cell and including~~ the polynucleotide according to claim 1.

33. (Currently Amended) A host cell ~~containing a heterologous polynucleotide or nucleic acid vector each~~ comprising the isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1.

34. (Currently Amended) The A host cell according to claim 33 which is a microbial cell.

35. (Currently Amended) The A host cell according to claim 33 which is a plant cell.

HARBERD et al
Appl. No. 09/485,529
December 8, 2003

36. (Currently Amended) The A plant cell according to claim 35 having comprising said heterologous isolated polynucleotide in its genome.

37. (Currently Amended) The A plant cell according to claim 36 having comprising more than one said isolated polynucleotide per haploid genome.

38. (Currently Amended) The A plant cell according to claim 35 which is comprised in a plant, a plant part or a plant propagule, or an extract of a plant.

39. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a the transformed host cell according to claim 35, the method including comprising incorporating into a host cell said heterologous isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1 or nucleic acid vector into the cell by means of transformation so that said transformed host cell is produced.

40. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 39 which includes recombining the polynucleotide with the cell genome such that it wherein said isolated polynucleotide is stably incorporated therein into the genome of said transformed host cell.

41. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 39 wherein said host cell is a plant cell and said method further includes comprises regenerating a plant from one or more of said transformed plant cells.

HARBERD et al
Appl. No. 09/485,529
December 8, 2003

42. (Previously Presented) A plant comprising the plant cell according to claim 35.

43. (Currently Amended) A part or propagule of a plant comprising a the plant cell according to claim 35.

44. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a plant, the method ~~including~~ comprising incorporating a the isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1 into a plant cell and regenerating a plant from said plant cell.

45. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A method according to claim 44 further ~~including comprising~~ sexually or asexually propagating ~~or growing off spring or a descendant of~~ the plant regenerated from said plant cell.

46. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~influencing~~ altering the growth of a plant, the method ~~including~~ comprising causing or allowing expression from a heterologous polynucleotide comprising the isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1 within cells of the plant,

whereby said expression of said heterologous polypeptide ~~influencees~~ alters the growth of said plant.

47-49 (Cancelled).

HARBERD et al
Appl. No. 09/485,529
December 8, 2003

50. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying or obtaining a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence DELLAALGYKVRASDMA (SEQ ID NO:104) and which on expression in a plant provides inhibition of growth of the plant, which inhibition is antagonised by gibberellin, wherein said polynucleotide specifically hybridizes to the sequence of Figure 8A (SEQ ID NO: 14) at 65°C in 0.25M Na₂HPO₄, pH 7.2, 6.5% SDS, 10% dextran sulphate and a final wash at 60°C in 0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS., the method comprising screening candidate nucleic acid by PCR using oligonucleotide primers selected from those shown in Tables 1 (SEQ ID NO: 21 – SEQ ID NO:55) and 2 (SEQ ID NO: 80 – SEQ ID NO:100).

51-56 (Cancelled).

57. (New) The method according to claim 44 further comprising growing off-spring of or a descendant of the plant regenerated from said plant cell.